



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1997

No. 111

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Don Bowen, Downtown Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA, offered the following prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, we seek to hallow Your name as we pause at the beginning of this day's proceedings to ask Your forgiveness for past wrongs and to seek Your guidance for the days before us. We need You, Lord, for we are prone at times to depend too much upon our own wisdom and too little upon Yours.

We pause this day to pray for those who have suffered loss of life and home in these recent days. We pray also for those who have left family and home to defend the freedoms which all of us enjoy.

We pray, God, for all who carry upon their shoulders the burden of leadership, for theirs is a great responsibility. Help all of us to remember that You require one thing above all else from each of us, that we do justly, have mercy, and walk humbly with You. May we do so as we walk in the footsteps of the One who so clearly personified this for us, even Jesus Your Son. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. EVERETT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EVERETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. McDevitt, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 98. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the SAFE KIDS Buckle Up Car Seat Safety Check.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1866. An act to continue favorable treatment for need-based educational aid under the antitrust laws.

H.R. 2169. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2169) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. SHELBY, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BOND, Mr. GORTON, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BYRD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. INOUE, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

WELCOME TO REV. DON BOWEN

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today's invocation was given by the Reverend Don Bowen who has been the Pastor at the Downtown Baptist Church in Alexandria VA, for 30 years.

He is retiring at the end of this month, and it is our privilege and honor that he has an opportunity to address this body.

He has done a tremendous service to the entire Washington metropolitan area, in mission outreach, in serving our youth, in so many areas. He has been the president of the ministers conference and the president of the Mount Vernon Baptist Association. He has been the chairman of the Committee to Study Baptist Priorities of the 1980's and beyond. He has achieved any number of credentials, but most important he is a man of God who has served his community in an exemplary fashion. He has also preached revivals around the country, in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, West Virginia, and particularly, in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, that will be my segue to yield to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WICKER], who attends the Downtown Baptist Church and would like to say a few words as well.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Although I have not heard Reverend Bowen preach a revival in Mississippi, I have had the opportunity to visit Downtown Baptist Church and to hear the sermons of Rev. Don Bowen on numerous occasions when I found myself in Alexandria. I would observe that it takes good oratory and skills of persuasion to be a successful preacher. But there is something even more special about the people skills and spiritual gifts necessary to lead a congregation and to become a great pastor.

Mr. Speaker, it occurs to me that Rev. Don Bowen during his 30 years at Downtown Baptist Church in Alexandria has exhibited all of these qualities. I could congratulate Don Bowen on 30 years of service, and I wish him Godspeed upon his retirement.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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